



# Holy Trinity

Lutheran Church

JANUARY—MARCH  
2019

## *Mission Initiatives: Hypothermia and Blanket Sunday*

### **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church participates in the Fairfax County Hypothermia Shelter sponsored by FACETS**

Through the winter, 34 faith communities take turns hosting the shelter, offering safe places to sleep and nutritious meals.

**Our week this year is 3/3-3/10.** We will be open from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. and expect 30-45 guests for each night of the week. We need volunteers to help with:

- ◆ evening hospitality (share a meal... with us and the guests)
- ◆ provide breakfast, dinner or desert for one of the days
- ◆ overnight supervision
- ◆ clean-up the next morning

Please consider signing up at church or on sign up.com <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0e48a9a82ea57-htlc5>. We had a tremendous response last year and love the energy this congregation brings to this cause. Please check your calendars to see when you could support any of these activities.

Please also consider whether you could be a snow emergency volunteer. Generally, FACETS asks the congregations to stay open during the day when Fairfax County schools close for inclement weather. If you can volunteer for these emergencies, please sign up. We would need at least 4 volunteers here to stay open.

Feel free to contact Rob or Tracy with any questions. Thanks so much! Rob Young and Tracy Strunk (See more on Page 10)

### **Blanket Sunday at Holy Trinity is March 3**

During Holy Trinity's hypothermia mission season, we have the opportunity to blanket our neighbors with love through Church World Service's **Blanket +** program.

A \$5.00 donation will provide one wool blanket for persons in need of shelter and warmth.

You are invited to look for the CWS contribution envelope in the March 3 bulletin. Please make checks payable to Holy Trinity, note Blanket Sunday in the memo line and complete the information requested on the label applied to the envelope.



Thank you!

- ◆ The Rev. Michael Gutzler, Pastor  
[pastormike@holyltrinityfallschurch.org](mailto:pastormike@holyltrinityfallschurch.org)
- ◆ Vicar Corey Bergman  
[vicarcory@holyltrinityfallschurch.org](mailto:vicarcory@holyltrinityfallschurch.org)
- ◆ Joan Buscher, Parish Administrator  
[office@holyltrinityfallschurch.org](mailto:office@holyltrinityfallschurch.org)
- ◆ Josh Brown, Director of Music  
[josh@holyltrinityfallschurch.org](mailto:josh@holyltrinityfallschurch.org)
- ◆ Greg Bloy, Accompanist  
[gregbloy@holyltrinityfallschurch.org](mailto:gregbloy@holyltrinityfallschurch.org)
- ◆ Eugenia Davis, Newsletter Editor  
[eugeniamdavis1@gmail.com](mailto:eugeniamdavis1@gmail.com) (submit articles by the 15th of each month)

- ◆ Jeremy Cochran, Handbell Director
- ◆ Laura Rose, Accountant
- ◆ Felicito Arana, Custodian
- ◆ Nursery Attendant

**TRUSTEES:** Jeffrey Ihnen, John Person, and Lynn Tedesco

#### **MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND**

**MEMBERS:** Jeffrey Taylor, Alfie Rulis, Lynn McKay, and John Bowen

**MISSIONARY:** Stephen Deal (Latin America and the Caribbean) ELCA Division for Global Mission

### **Inside this issue:**

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## Pastor's Peace

### New Year, New Discoveries

How do you summarize two years of work into a 15-minute interview? Quickly!

This was the challenge I was asked to complete by the Bishop and the Bishop's staff, and thus it was more of an expectation than a request. The Bishop and staff are preparing for this summer's assembly and they wanted to know what was happening in the Mosaic District as our congregation continues to meet new people and establish a second site.

In preparation for the video I looked back at all my notes and my attendance spreadsheets. I compiled a list of all the ways we reached out to new people and the different places we tried to gather as a group. In the end, I came up with several surprising statistics and some learned lessons.

The statistics:

1. Over the course of two years, we had 75+ new people attend a gathering or ministry in the Mosaic District.
2. We met, or at least engaged, hundreds of people and introduced to them to our work and efforts to be church in the Mosaic District.
3. Via social media and advertisings, we introduced ourselves to hundreds more people.

What were the "net" results of all of our evangelism and outreach? Our average weekly attendance was about 20+ people, with higher participation in the summer.

So what did we learn from our two years of effort and this new data? A lot, but here are just a few items we can consider together:

**Personal Connections Matter:** When inviting people to a gathering, in person or via advertising, newcomers are more likely to connect to a community when they already know someone. The people who came to Mosaic and stayed most often already knew someone connected to the group. What does this offer Holy Trinity – the people you know looking for a community of faith are more likely to connect with us than the random people we meet or sent advertisements. ***So, know anyone looking for a community like ours?***

**People Want to Add Value to their Lives:** Of those people who had no connection to Mosaic and found us via advertisements, all of them had busy, over-scheduled lives, but were willing to adjust their schedules if what we were offering added value. Value can be the community, it could be the content of our gatherings, or just another way to deepen faith. Here at Holy Trinity, we deeply value our time in worship, our community connections and serving others among other things. ***Do you know anyone looking to add value to their life?***

**Passion Drives Purpose and Schedule:** Have you ever noticed the effort die-hard sports fans put into watching or supporting their team? They will drive long distances, spend lots of money, and adjust their schedules to accommodate the passion they have for their team. As disciples of Jesus, our passion is Christ – and, thus, we are passionate about being agents of grace, forgiveness, healing and restoration in the world. Therefore as a disciple, what specifically drives your faithful passion? ***Where do you see the need to bring Christ into our world?***

As we "pivot" and reexamine our efforts in the Mosaic District in 2019, one of my personal areas of emphasis will be to compile stories of Holy Trinity's communal passions of discipleship. I want to find new ways to tell your stories—to see if there is a recurring theme, passions that are underutilized, or opportunities just around the corner. Be on the lookout for your opportunity to contribute to the conversation and guide our direction for the next 70 years!

Peace be with you,

*Pastor Mike*



**LENT Begins on March 6**—The invitation to Lent is an invitation to journey with Christ to the cross, to remember our dependence on God and to gaze with faith toward the resurrection to come. Ash Wednesday Services at Holy Trinity will be held at 12 Noon and 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us.



## Council News

As we began the new year, your Church Council met in retreat to discuss our goals for the coming year, which include:

- ♦ increasing active participation in our church
- ♦ working to better meet the needs of our growing number of children and youth (and their families!)

Council also heard an update from Pastor Mike about our work to establish a second site for ministry and how that work may move in some new and exciting directions in 2019. We also discussed plans for a mid-year survey about our move to a single service on Sunday. Stay tuned!

You may also have noticed a change we made to our inclement weather policy during the retreat, and just prior to our most recent snowstorm. **We will now follow the lead of the nearby Falls Church City School System for weather closures rather than the Fairfax County Public Schools**, which often close due to more severe conditions in the western part of the county that may not affect our area.

Looking forward, I hope you're making plans to come to the **Jazz Coffee House on February 23<sup>rd</sup>** and thinking of how you might support Holy Trinity's hosting of the FACETS hypothermia shelter this year. As in years past, we will be welcoming guests during the week beginning March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and there are many ways to get involved:

- ♦ cooking or baking for our guests
- ♦ providing hospitality or overnight supervision or by
- ♦ donating used clothing/shoes/outerwear
- ♦ making monetary donations

Best wishes from all of us on council for a healthy, happy and peaceful 2019!

*Mary Minette*  
Council President

Our meetings are in the library on the second Monday of each month

### 2018-19 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS and MEMBERS

President: Mary Minette  
Julie Davis  
Seth Clark

Vice President: Lori Wicks  
Mark Kerr  
Karen Cockerham

Treasurer: Joe Kile  
Terry Bathen  
Brent Stone

Secretary: Terri Fleck  
Scott Sherard  
Pamela Kabati

### HOLY TRINITY'S INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

**Worship Service:** If worship are cancelled, a notice will be sent to the congregation via MailChimp email. Cancellations will also be posted on our Facebook page and website [www.holytrinityfallschurch.org](http://www.holytrinityfallschurch.org).

**Church office:** If Falls Church City Schools open late, the church office opens late.

**For groups meeting at Holy Trinity:** Check the Falls Church City Public Schools website for evening activities: [www.fccps.org/alert](http://www.fccps.org/alert)



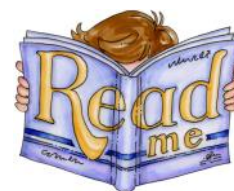
### Stories and Songs—Our Mosaic Playgroup



We host a Thursday morning play group for young children at a meeting room in the Mosaic District. We sing fun songs, do silly finger plays, read interactive stories and move to music. We end with a prayer and a time for visiting. The children enjoy being together and having fun while interacting with songs and stories, and so do we! You and your toddler are welcome to join us.  
Pastor Mike, Vicar Corey and Karen Davis

*Dear Parents,*

*We welcome you to Sunday worship at Holy Trinity. We are happy to provide activity bags for your children to use during the worship service. They are located in the wagon behind the last pew, near the rocking chairs. If you prefer, we have a staffed nursery, located off the lobby. Please see an usher.*





## Corey's Corner *by Vicar Corey Bergman*

### How does one become a Vicar? Part 2



Welcome to part two of how I became a Vicar here at Holy Trinity. Last you heard from me, I was finishing my last year of undergrad and beginning to look at where I wanted to go to seminary. This issue will look at how I chose the seminary I would attend, the start of my candidacy process with my Synod.

So during the summer before my senior year of college I began to make a list of seminaries I was interested in. I was able to limit my list down to five seminaries: the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (LSTC), Luther, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (LTSP), Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS), and Wartburg.

Out of those five I picked LSTC. The weird thing about my decision to go to LSTC is that I was never really planning to go there until the moment I decided to go. I had a running ranking of the schools that I updated as I met with admissions recruiters, went on visits, and continued to discern where God was calling me. At no point during all of that did LSTC rank in the top two. Even the admissions office at LSTC didn't think I was going to attend until I sent them an email notifying them of my decision. Some of the other schools offered me bigger scholarships, new adventures, or the opportunity to be close to home, but that didn't matter in the end. I picked LSTC because I woke up one morning unable to shake the feeling that I was meant to be in Chicago. It's almost like the Holy Spirit picked for me. Sitting where I am now, I can honestly say it was the best place for me. I've grown as a person, a pastor, and a theologian in more ways than I can count. I met friends I hope to have for a lifetime. And I met the person I will spend the rest of my life with, so all in all, a good choice for me.

Once I decided on which seminary I was going to attend, I began the Candidacy process which is kind of like "boards" for a Pastor with three meetings throughout my time in seminary. The first part of candidacy is called entrance, and involves three parts. The first is a psych evaluation at a clinic that works with the Synod. You fill out a few inventories, talk to a counselor and they write up a report that indicates any red flags you might have for becoming a minister. I missed my appointment and had to reschedule, so timeliness was on mine...whoops. The second part is writing a paper. The questions for the paper are pretty easy—focusing on your call to ministry, and an introduction to who you are as a person. The final and most intimidating part of entrance is the interview. In every synod it's different, but for mine, I sat in front of a panel of four people made up of a retired pastor, two current pastors, and a lay person. After an hour of questions about my paper, the councilor's report, and life in general, they vote on you. I passed unanimously but not without a small hiccup. I wore shorts to my interview because I biked and the sight of my bare legs rubbed one of the panel remembers the wrong way to the point where I got a mini-lecture about appropriate dress during my interview. If I had to guess, it's probably more because of the two very visible calf tattoos I have than the fact that I wore shorts. To the next interview I wore my suit and a bow-tie, so you could say I learned.

Well, this issue was more informative than story-based, but it sets up the stage for what has been an amazing two years for me. So watch out for part three in the next issue!

Peace,  
*Vicar Corey*

**Check us out on YouTube!** Holy Trinity officially has its own [Youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMHnHjxLSGUrYDod2Ual-iA) page that you can subscribe to. On the page you will be able to watch the Wednesday devotions and any other videos the church makes.  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMHnHjxLSGUrYDod2Ual-iA>





## Getting Connected

During our 70th anniversary year, we have featured Holy Trinity's history by decades.

### HOLY TRINITY'S FINAL DECADES OF THE 20th CENTURY 1980-2000

On August 10, 1980, Pastor Langholz accepted a call to another church and Larry Shoberg served as interim pastor until Pastor Larry Cantu was called to be Senior Pastor. He was Holy Trinity's pastor from 1981 until 2000. After serving as assistant pastor for four years, Pastor Stephen Swonger accepted another call in 1982. Pastor Arnold Holgersen was installed as associate pastor in 1983. Jason Burns was hired as lay Director of Youth Ministries in 1983 and in 1984 became Youth Minister. In 1987 Pastor Holgersen accepted a call to another church, and Pastor Ralph Piper, recently retired, became interim associate pastor. (He was named Pastor Emeritus in 1988.) Pastor Craig Endicott accepted a call as Holy Trinity's associate pastor in 1988, and remained in that position until 1997. Pastors Bill and Jenni Zima were welcomed to Holy Trinity in 1998. In 1993 Holy Trinity re-established its intern program and welcomed Vicars (interns) Kelli Shepard 1993-1994; Tyson Wood 1994-1995; Douglas Ryneiwick 1995-1996; Jeff Lindsay 1997-1998; and Scott Seeke 1998-1999. In May 1982 Holy Trinity completed the final phase of the installation of the 1,564 pipe Lewis and Hitchcock pipe organ. In 1985 Holy Trinity completed the acquisition of five octaves of Schulmerich Handbells, for

a full set of 61 bells. Three octaves of Choir chimes were also purchased in 1985 for use with the children's choir. In 1983 Holy Trinity paid off its mortgage and celebrated with a "mortgage burning." As of January 1, 1988 Holy Trinity had 1,165 baptized members and a church school enrollment of 175. In the 80's and 90's, Holy Trinity had a number of fellowship activities: Young Couples group, Singles group, Fellowship Club, and family retreats at Caroline Furnace.

In 1989 the house and parcel of land at 7017 Aronow Drive was purchased and designated an associate pastor parsonage. An open-ended lease was signed in 1990 with Bethany House of Northern Virginia to use the former parsonage at 7019 Aronow Drive as a shelter for abused spouses. The space in the back of that house was made available for additional parking. It also became the space for Holy Trinity's memorial wall and garden, which were put in place in 1995.

In 1993 Holy Trinity began hosting a Vietnamese Menonite Congregation in its facilities. That congregation is still meeting at Holy Trinity, 26 years later. For many years Holy Trinity's congregation and the Vietnamese congregation shared a service at an annual summer picnic. For a time in the 1990's Holy Trinity opened its doors to a Spanish-speaking congregation, which met at Holy Trinity on Saturdays. During this time, Holy Trinity members volunteered their time to help Spanish speakers learn English.

Mary Bowen

### HOLY TRINITY PASTORS & VICARS 1948-2018

**Edward F. Yost;** Pastor 1948-1963

**William L. Nies;** Pastor 1963-1974

**Douglas Langholz;** Assistant Pastor 1970-1975  
Pastor 1975-1980

**Stephen DeGweck;** Assistant Pastor 1975-1978

**Steven Swonger;** Assistant Pastor 1978-1982

**Larry Shoberg;** Interim Pastor 1980-1981

**Larry M. Cantu;** Pastor 1981-2000

**Arnold Holgersen;** Associate Pastor 1983-1987

**Jason Burns;** Youth Pastor 1984-1987

**Craig Endicott;** Associate Pastor 1988-1998

**Ralph Piper;** Pastor Emeritus 1990-1998

**Jennifer Zima;** Assistant Pastor 1998-2002

**William Zima;** Assistant Pastor 1998-2002

**John W. Bengston;** Interim Pastor 2001-2002

**Brent Thalacker;** Interim Pastor 2002

**Douglas Ryniewicz;** Pastor 2002-2006

**Jane Halpern;** Associate Pastor 2003-2007; Pastor 2007-2015

**Jim Heinemeier;** Interim Associate Pastor 2006-2007

**Margrethe Kleiber;** Assistant Pastor 2008  
Associate Pastor 2010-2012

**Tom Montgomery;** Interim Pastor 2015

**Michael Gutzler;** Pastor 2015-present

**Krista Vingelis;** Pastor of Youth and Family Ministry 2017-2018

**Donald McCash** 1966-1967

**Timothy Nehis** 1967-1968

**Richard Gilbert** 1968-1969

**Richard Browder** 1969-1970

**Kelli Shepard** 1993-1994

**Tyson Wood** 1994-1995

**Douglas Ryneiwick** 1995-1996

**Jeff Lindsay** 1997-1998

**Scott Seeke** 1998-1999

**Gerard Johnson** 1999-2000

**Laura Johnson** 2008-2009

**Daniel G. Shantu** 2009-2010

**Suzanne M. Stierwalt** 2013-2014

**Daniel Rinehart** 2016-2017

**Cory Bergman** 2018-

Many thanks to Mary Bowen for providing this historical information



## Invite a Friend

CONCERTS AT HOLY TRINITY  PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL

**JAZZ COFFEE HOUSE**  
Featuring **Adrian Duke & Friends**

**Saturday, February 23, 7:00pm**  
**No Admission Charge**  
**Freewill Offering Welcome**



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH • 3022 WOODLAWN AVENUE • FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042

The *Concerts at Holy Trinity* series has brought you Bluegrass and BBQ, Christmas Carols and Cookies, and now it's time for **Jazz and Java!** Come to a lamp-lit Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>** and enjoy coffee and sweet and savory nibbles while being entertained by the inimitable *Adrian Duke & Friends*. The group plays New Orleans-influenced blues, jazz, and soul and can be heard at <http://adrianduke.com>.

Admission is free (though donations will be gratefully accepted) and all are welcome.  
**The fun starts at 7:00 p.m.** Be there or be square – and bring some friends!

### HELP NEEDED FOR JAZZ COFFEE HOUSE

The JCH planning team needs some assistance to make the event a success.

If you can cook or bake a sweet or savory finger food, help with set-up on Saturday morning (2/23) or clean-up right after the event, or lend a table lamp for the evening, please let us know via the online sign-up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BOB4DADAE1-jazz> or by sending an email to Lori Wicks at [lori.wicks01@gmail.com](mailto:lori.wicks01@gmail.com). Thanks!



**We are very excited to welcome internationally acclaimed organist and pianist Jeremy Filsell to Holy Trinity on Sunday evening, March 17, at 5:00 p.m.**

There will be a reception to follow.

Jeremy will be performing a gorgeously reflective concert as he expertly takes us through "The Stations of the Cross" (Le Chemin de la Croix) by Marcel Dupré (1886-1971).

This is a concert not to be missed; mark your calendars with this date (rescheduled from May)

*... "I must register a certain shock at the sheer brilliance of his playing. Technically he is outstanding, but what impresses me most is his uncanny musical insight and the sheer persuasive power of his performances. He clearly possesses exceptional musicianship and considerable technical virtuosity. Here is playing of the very first order on a disc which no lover of French organ music should be without." - Gramophone, London*



## Getting Connected

**OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving, Souls) 11:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall**

**For February and March, we will meet on the second Wednesday, the 13th**

All are welcome to join us for fun, food and conversation. Birthdays will be celebrated!

**REMINDER:** St. Jude's Children's Hospital would love to have your old greeting cards. Just tear off the fronts and place in small box on shelf in narthex. Please NO card larger than 5" x 7", and NO Hallmark, Disney or American cards. OWLS members will gather cards and mail to the hospital. For more information, please see Jean or Leona or visit: <https://stjudesranch.org/recycled-card-program/>



### MEET—LEARN—FELLOWSHIP

Listed below are some of our monthly gatherings. All are welcome to attend.  
If you are interested in joining us or have questions, please contact the church office.

- ♦ **Needlecrafters—Second and fourth Wednesdays** at 10:00 a.m., in Rothenberg Hall.
- ♦ **Women's Bible Study Groups—Miriam/Lydia** meets on the **third Friday** of each month at 1:00 p.m., in the Youth/Community Room. **Naomi** meets on the **fourth Sunday** of each month at 5:30 p.m., in the Library.
- ♦ **Men's Breakfast—First Saturday** at 8:30 a.m. Held at a local restaurant near HTLC.
- ♦ **Women's Book Club—First Saturday** at 8:30 a.m. Location varies between Holy Trinity or a member's home. If you are interested in joining us, please contact coordinator Linda Beaty at [linda.beaty@writeme.com](mailto:linda.beaty@writeme.com)



### When Life Gives You Scraps, Make a Quilt of Them

On January 19<sup>th</sup>, Sisters' Choice Quilters met in Fellowship Hall for a service day to honor the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. Twenty five quilt tops were pieced and will find their way to the quilters at Hope Lutheran Church. These quilters will sandwich, tie and bind the tops, finishing the quilts. Then, they send the quilts off into the world via Lutheran World Relief, or to local folks in need. It's a great collaboration.

In addition to the quilt tops, four banners for the white season were pieced, and they will soon find a place in our sanctuary. Watch for them!

Amy Loar

January 19, 2019

Dear Family and Friends,

After four months, Joann has been discharged from Hospice because her condition is unchanged and she is getting good care. We have two paid ladies who come to help me with Joann's care and with household chores. Each comes two days a week from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Deb comes at her convenience, usually including Sunday lunch.

I have Learned a lot from the Hospice team. I welcome any suggestions that improve Joann's care and quality of life. They are the professionals, and I am still an amateur but getting better. I know there will be a time when we will be calling Hospice back. Because of this, they are going to keep in touch with us to check on how we are doing. Pictures are Deb and Joann opening gifts and Lloyd with his granddaughter. We hope all is well with you, and your new year is producing happy results. All things considered, we are happy here buoyed by our marvelous support group including you. Prayers offered are answered and we are grateful.

Lloyd







## Getting Connected



### Welcome New Member!

Joan Tortorelli joined on December 16, 2018



**Advent Concert and  
Cookie Reception**  
December 9, 2018



Photos by Katharine Kurtz



**SPRING IS  
COMING!**

**Daylight Savings Time  
begins on March 10**

**First day of Spring is  
March 20!**





## Growing in Faith

### LEARN—SHARE—GROW

All are welcome to attend. If you are interested in joining us or have questions, please contact the church office.

- ♦ **Sunday Morning Bible Study—10:00 a.m., in the Library.** Studying Acts. Leader is Deacon Deb Haynes.
- ♦ **Looking for a Women's Bible Study?** HT's Bible Study group monthly schedule:  
**Miriam/Lydia**—meets on the third Friday at 1 p.m. (in the library)  
**Naomi**—meets on the fourth Sunday at 5:30 p.m. (in the youth/community room)
- ♦ **Faith Outside the Box—Monday, February 25—7:00 p.m., in the Youth/Community Room.** We will meet to discuss "God in the Qur'an" by Jack Miles. Join us in the HT Library. All are welcome. For future discussion topics and dates, check the Sunday bulletin announcements or visit [www.holytrinityfallschurch.org](http://www.holytrinityfallschurch.org)
- ♦ **RIC** —The Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Committee meets on the third Sunday of each month after church in the Youth and Community Room. Please join us as we explore ways to be more welcoming to members of the LGBT community.
- ♦ **Holy Trinity offers Sunday School for all ages during the Christian education hour beginning at 8:45 a.m.**



### HT WELCA Annual Women's Retreat—April 26-28

The theme of this year's retreat is **IMPROVISATIONAL WISDOM**

**Women of the ELCA** Life is an improvisation. How does God speak to us in the unexpected daily surprises that we experience? We are asked to let go and let God. How do we do that? Our Retreat Leader is Deacon Kathy Garrison, Spiritual Director, and Hospital Chaplain (photo at R). Cost is \$275 for five meals and two nights' lodging at the A. Felix DuPont Memorial House in Rehoboth, DE. Sign up in the narthex. For more information, see or contact Judy Baker, Marcia Ihnen, or Joy Wells.



## Serving Our Neighbor

### Book Distribution at Graham Road Elementary School is Friday, April 12

We've done it again! Following our successful Fall Mission Initiative in 2017 to raise \$1,000 to purchase a book for every student at Graham Road Elementary School (GRES), we did it again this past fall. Thanks to the congregation's generosity, we raised enough money to purchase a book for every child at the school this spring.

If you're not familiar with GRES, the closest elementary school to the church, it's a Title-1 school serving students from many low-income homes. The most recent statistics for their student body report 87% Hispanic students, with 58% classified as English learners and 86% receiving free or reduced price meals.

Once again we are partnering with RIF (Reading Is Fundamental) to obtain the books. With recommendations from the teachers, the reading specialist will select

books from RIF's on-line catalog suitable for students in Head Start through 6th grade and at all reading levels. The books will be given to the students on Friday, April 12—the principal selected this date to ensure the students have a good book to read during their spring break.



Can you help distribute the books to the students? Last year 25 volunteers from Holy Trinity participated, taking a stack of books to a classroom and beginning to read the book to the students. Everyone enjoyed the morning -- students, teachers, and volunteers! The estimated time commitment is from 9:30 to 11—the exact time will be confirmed closer to April 12. Watch the Sunday bulletin for details. If you have questions or are interested in joining us, please contact Judy Baker at 703-237-8717 or [judybaker2825@yahoo.com](mailto:judybaker2825@yahoo.com).



## Serving Our Neighbor

### March 3-10 Donation list

# HTLC Hypothermia Shelter

#### OUR HYPOTHERMIA TEAM

Rob Young, Tracy Strunk  
Coordinators

Jane Sparnon  
Donation "store" coordinator

#### CLOTHING:

Must be PRACTICAL, NEW  
or GENTLY USED, **CLEAN** and **MENDED**

- **NEW** men's & women's underwear, T-shirts
- **NEW** men & women's socks
- sneakers, shoes, boots, shoelaces
- coats/vests, hats, gloves, scarves
- rain ponchos/jackets, hand warmers

#### TOILETRIES

- toothbrushes - single packaged
- small toothpaste, dental floss, mouthwash
- first aid kit, band aids, throat lozenges
- Neosporin, cortisone cream, Vaseline
- foot powder, athletes foot spray
- lotion, hand cream, deodorant, Chapstick
- combs, nail clippers, emery boards
- tissue packets & wet wipes
- feminine hygiene items
- hand sanitizer – pocket size
- **NO big bottles, NO soap**
- **NO shampoo, NO conditioner**

#### \$5 GIFT CARDS

- Starbucks, McDonalds and IHOP

#### OTHER

- plastic sport bottles
- chewable vitamins
- flashlights or headlamps w/batteries
- bandanas
- small wheeled luggage
- backpacks
- approx. 6x8 tarp, 8+ mil thickness
- small roll of duct tape
- paperback books
- small notebooks, pens
- umbrellas, small sewing kit

Preparing  
our space  
for our  
guests



**THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS**—Are you a Thrivent member? Did you know that all Thrivent members are eligible to



**THRIVENT**®

Be Wise With Money™

lead a Thrivent Action Team? Many Thrivent members at Holy Trinity have applied for and received a Thrivent Action Kit for some of our community outreach projects (hypothermia, Breakfast with Santa). Included in the kit is a promotional banner, Thrivent T-shirts, and a \$250 Community Impact Card.

For more information, visit <https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/>



## Serving Our Neighbor



### From the FCS Annual Fall 2018 Newsletter—Volunteer Spotlight:

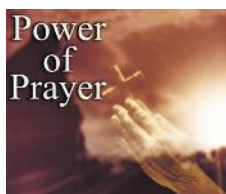
#### Meet Leona Badger

Leona has been volunteering at the FCS Food Pantry since 2002. Leona began to recruit other volunteers from her church, Holy Trinity Lutheran, and within the past couple of years, her volunteer team has grown to 8 people! The volunteers from Holy Trinity usually help out 2 or 3 time per month. They have helped to reorganize the food pantry and they work to sort and stack the food donations that we receive. Leona was born in Iowa. She and her husband, David, both retired, have lived in Falls Church for over 40 years. They have 4 children and 7 grandchildren. Leona and David enjoy camping and biking. Leona's great help, along with the Holy Trinity team, has ben indispensable! **Thank you!**



**PRAYER CHAIN:** Marcia Ihnen  
[mcihnen@aol.com](mailto:mcihnen@aol.com)

To start a request or to be added to the Prayer Chain, please contact Marcia.



**SUNSHINE SECRETARY:** Sandra Lee

[leeassociates@aol.com](mailto:leeassociates@aol.com)

If you know of someone who is celebrating a special occasion, having health concerns or mourning the loss of a loved one, please contact Sandra.



## Milestones

**Baptisms:** Logan Shoun on Sunday, February 10. Parents Mark and Laura and sibling Gavin, joined Holy Trinity that same day, transferring from Christ Lutheran Church in Washington, D. C. We welcome the Shoun family to the Holy Trinity community of faith.

**New Members Received:** During 2018, we welcomed 15 new members to Holy Trinity. In April, the McCann family, Lauren, Ryan, Kaley and Logan; in May—Chase Wells; in June—Evelyn Blomquist; in October—David & Ellis Popelier, the Muin family (Solomon, Garmai Jarry, and Jireh Muin), Kimberly Boeckman, Lisa Taylor and Travis Reznik

**In Memoriam:** Former HT member Jeri Hesson passed away last spring and was remembered at worship on Sunday, January 27.



### January — March Birthdays and Anniversaries



#### January

Kaden Ball, Aaron Bertrand, Savannah Elliott, Katherine Franke, Kaitlin Froemling, Abbigail Green, Rachel Kaczmarczyk, Carolyn Lemens, Nicholas Lemens, Reuben Luoma-Overstreet, Bill Merkel, Michael Popelier, Nicholas Poreda, Beth Search, Anne Simmons, Ray Sparnon, Gregory Wicks

Albert & Sandra Lee,  
Joseph & Martha Kile

#### February

Abra Allsman, Jean Artman, Corey Bergman, Bonnie Buchanan, Jill Cockerham-Sisk, Thomas Daniels, Karen Davis, Larry Elliott, Robert Elliott, Tracy Green, Gary Grutzik, Clara Gutzler, Chuck Hoyt, Erin Hoyt, Ethan Kabati, Christina Kaczmarczyk, Mark Kerr, Karen Loar, Samuel Merkel, Leslie Meyer, Ray Meyer, Wanda Mikovch, Jonathan Mills, Jireh Muin, Andrew Paparella, Jeffrey Pavlet, Alan Rulis, Alfreda Rulis, Julia Wicks, Jeremiah Young

Charles & Kris Luoma-Overstreet

#### March

Aiden Allsman, Jackson Allsman, Keith Ball, Kristin Ball, Linda Beaty, Grace Crum, Maureen Elliott, John Grutzik, Ursula Jones, Anna Kaczmarczyk, Noah Kaczmarczyk, Mike Kreider, Albert Lee Jr., Eleanore Marcey, Asa Meyer, Lee Meyer, Alexander Popelier, William Richards, Matthew Roberts, Elizabeth Stone, Debora Wake, Lori Wicks

Phil & Amy Loar,  
Jonathan & Abra Allsman





Holy Trinity  
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A Reconciling in Christ  
Congregation



## YEAR AT A GLANCE

### September

3—Labor Day holiday  
(Church Office closed)  
9—70th Anniversary  
10—Council meeting  
15—Merrifield Fall Festival

### October

6—Octoberfest @ HT  
7—Animal Blessing (TBD)  
8—Columbus Day holiday  
(Church Office closed)  
Council meeting  
28—Reformation Sunday

### November

4—All Saints Day  
Daylight Savings ends  
12—Church Office closed for  
Veteran's Day holiday  
12—Council meeting  
18—Fall Congregation mtg  
22—Thanksgiving Day  
26—Christ the King Sunday

### December

1—Breakfast with Santa  
2—Fair Trade Shopping  
10—Council meeting  
16—Christmas Pageant  
19—Advent Concert/cookies  
24—Xmas Eve @ 4, 7, 9 p.m.  
25—Christmas Day  
(Church office closed)  
30—Lessons/Carols 10 a.m.

### January 2019

1—Church Office closed  
7—Council meeting  
14—MLK holiday  
(Church Office closed)

### February

11—Council meeting  
19—President's Day holiday  
(Church Office closed)  
23—Jazz Coffee House

### March

3—10 Hypothermia Week  
3—Blanket Sunday  
6—Ash Wednesday  
10—Daylight Savings begins  
11—Council meeting  
17—Organ Concert

### April

8—Council meeting  
14—Palm Sunday  
18—Maundy Thursday  
19—Good Friday  
21—Easter Sunday  
22—Church Office closed  
26-28—WELCA Retreat

### May

5—Youth Sunday  
12—Mothers Day  
13 Council meeting  
19—Music Sunday  
27—Memorial Day Holiday  
(Church Office closed)

### June

### July

4—Independence Day  
holiday (office closed)

### August